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Letter dated 17 March 2003 from the Secretary-General to the President of the General Assembly

I have the honour to refer to General Assembly resolution 57/228 of 18 December 2002, in which the General Assembly requested me to resume negotiations, without delay, to conclude an agreement with the Government of Cambodia on the establishment of Extraordinary Chambers within the existing court structure of Cambodia for the prosecution of crimes committed during the period of Democratic Kampuchea.

The General Assembly further requested me to report to it on the implementation of its resolution, in particular on my consultations and negotiations with the Government of Cambodia concerning the establishment of the Extraordinary Chambers, no later than 90 days from the date of adoption of the resolution.

My negotiating team departed this morning from Phnom Penh, where it conducted detailed negotiations with the Government of Cambodia for the conclusion of an agreement. Those negotiations have resulted in the establishment of a text of an agreement. That text will be included in a full report on the negotiations, which I will shortly submit to the General Assembly.

I should emphasize that the text of the agreement has not been signed by the United Nations. It will be for the General Assembly to decide whether the text is acceptable to the United Nations.

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter to the attention of the members of the General Assembly.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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